Committee has also been set up in the Ministry to efficiently administer the deep sea fisheries.

Implementation of new Agriculture Policy

† 2606. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new Agriculture Policy was announced in the year 2000 in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether any scheme has been chalked out for its implementation; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the impact of the implementation of new Agriculture Policy on agriculture in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The National Agriculture Policy announced in the year 2000 seeks to actualize the vast untapped growth potential of Indian agriculture, strengthen rural infrastructure to support faster agricultural development, promote value addition, accelerate the growth of agro business, create employment in rural areas, secure a fair standard of living for the farmers and agricultural workers and their families, discourage migration to urban areas and face the challenges arising out of economic liberalization and globalization.

Many schemes, which *inter-alia* include increase in the production and productivity of various crops including oilseeds and pulses, diversification to the high value crops, strengthening of agriculture marketing infrastructure, promotion of agriculture extension, promotion of water and soil conservation through watershed approach under natural resources management, and national horticulture mission, have been introduced.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.